
Judith A. Salerno, M.D., M.S.

President and Chief Executive Officer, Susan G. Komen®



Judith A. Salerno, M.D., M.S., is the President and Chief Executive Officer of Susan G. Komen®. She is responsible for setting the strategic direction and operations of the world's largest breast cancer organization, in line with Komen's key mission pillars: research, community health, public health policy and global outreach.

Dr. Salerno joined Komen in September of 2013 and oversees a global network of 114 Komen Affiliates which have funded more than \$1.95 billion in local education, screening and treatment programs, while also providing financial aid and psychosocial support to people facing breast cancer.

With Komen's Scientific Advisory Board, Dr. Salerno sets the direction of Komen's breast cancer research program, the largest of any nonprofit organization, with more than \$889 million invested in research since Komen's founding in 1982.

Dr. Salerno brings decades of public health and research experience to Komen. She joined Komen from the Institute of Medicine (IOM), where she was the Leonard D. Schaeffer Executive Officer, serving as executive director and chief operating officer. In that role, she was responsible for directing the IOM's research and policy programs and guiding the Institute's operations on a daily basis.

She also oversaw the National Cancer Policy Forum – a consortium of government, industry, academic, consumer, and other representatives that identifies and examines emerging high-priority policy issues in cancer. During her tenure at IOM, she co-wrote *The Weight of the Nation*, an examination of, and solutions for, America's obesity epidemic. The book accompanied an Emmy-nominated HBO documentary in 2013.

Previous to IOM, Dr. Salerno served as Deputy Director of the National Institute on Aging (NIA) at the National Institutes of Health, U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. She oversaw the Institute's research into aging, including research on Alzheimer's and other neurodegenerative diseases, frailty and function in late life, and the social, behavioral and demographic aspects of aging. In that role, she designed public-private initiatives to address aging stereotypes, novel approaches to support training of new investigators in aging, and programs to communicate health and research advances to the public.

She directed the continuum of Geriatrics and Extended Care programs across the nation for the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA), Washington, D.C., where she launched widely recognized national initiatives for pain management and improving end-of-life care. As Associate Chief of Staff at the VA Medical Center in Washington, D.C., Dr. Salerno developed and implemented innovative approaches to geriatric primary care and coordinated area-wide geriatric medicine training. She co-founded the Washington D.C. Area Geriatric Education Center Consortium, a collaboration of more than 160 educational and community organizations within the Baltimore-Washington region.

A board-certified physician in internal medicine, Dr. Salerno earned her M.D. degree from Harvard Medical School in 1985 and a Master of Science degree in Health Policy from the Harvard School of Public Health in 1976. She lives in Dallas, has three children and is an avid baseball fan.